

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB383

Hearing Date: Monday March 04, 2013
Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications
Introducer: Janssen
One Liner: Provide for Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 8 Senators Brasch, Dubas, Hadley, Janssen, McCoy, Smith, Watermeier, Price

Nay:

Absent:

Present Not Voting:

Proponents:

Senator Charlie Janssen
Gregory Holloway
Lieutenant Colonel Eric Teegerstrom
John Hilgert
Jeffrey Baker

Representing:

Introducer
Disabled American Veterans
National Guard Association
Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB383 creates the Armed Forces Pride license plate, a specialty plate available for purchase when registering a vehicle by a current or former member of the military or their spouse.

Section-by-section description:

Section 1 amends 60-301 of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act to add sections 7 & 8 of this bill.

Section 2 amends 60-393 regarding multiple vehicle registration, to add section 8 of this bill.

Section 3 amends 60-395 regarding refunds or credit of fees for registration to add section 8 of this bill.

Section 4 amends 60-396 regarding credit of fees for vehicles removed from service to add section 8 of this act.

Section 5 amends 60-3,104 to add a type of license plate, the Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates.

Section 6 amends 60-3,130.04 to add Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates to the list of exempted plates for historical vehicles.

Section 7 is new language to require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to design Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates. Allows the DMV to adopt and promulgate rules and regulations. Allows for alphanumeric plates without county designation or personalized message plates.

Section 8 is new language to allow eligible Nebraskans to apply for Nebraska Armed Forces Pride Plates beginning January 2, 2015. To be eligible, an applicant for the plates must furnish proof of active duty service, reservist status, veteran status, or be a surviving spouse of a veteran. The fee for alphanumeric plates is \$5, issued for the Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund, but is optional and waivable on one set of alphanumeric plates. The fee for the

personalized plates is \$45 of which 75%, or \$33.75, is credited to the Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund and 25%, or \$11.25, is credited to the DMV Cash Fund. Lost, stolen, or mutilated plates are replaced upon request without charge. Provides that plates are transferable. Allows for transfer of funds from the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund to the Highway Trust Fund in the event the cost of manufacturing the plates exceeds the amount charged.

Section 9: Repeals original sections.

Explanation of amendments:

AM1169 creates the Military Honor license plate, allows the Department of Veterans' Affairs to maintain the registry created in LB93 (2013) to assist the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in determining eligibility for the plate, and exempts Prisoner of War and Purple Heart plates from the additional \$5 fee, which goes to the Nebraska Veterans' Cemetery System Operation Fund.

In order to use the copyrighted emblems from the different service branches, those branches require verification that only current or former members are using the emblems. To aid the DMV in verifying such status, the Department of Veterans' Affairs will create and maintain a database of eligible members. Current or former service members desiring a Military Honor license plate will be required to first register with the Department of Veterans' Affairs database prior to applying for the specialized license plate.

The amendment replaces the bill.

Section by Section description:

Section 1 amends 60-301 of the Motor Vehicle Registration Act to add sections 9 & 10 of this bill.

Section 2 amends 60-393 regarding multiple vehicle registration, to add section 10 of this bill.

Section 3 amends 60-395 regarding refunds or credit of fees for registration to add section 10 of this bill.

Section 4 amends 60-396 regarding credit of fees for vehicles removed from service to add section 10 of this act.

Section 5 amends 60-3,104 to add a type of license plate, Military Honor Plates.

Section 6 amends 60-3,123 regarding Prisoner of war plates, to remove the additional \$5 fee.

Section 7 amends 60-3,125 regarding Purple Heart plates, to remove the additional \$5 fee.

Section 8 amends 60-3,130.04 to add Military Honor Plates to the list of exempted plates for historical vehicles.

Section 9 adds new language directing the DMV to design Military Honor license plates to honor persons serving or who have served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Air Force, or National Guard. Allows the DMV to make rules and regulations. Allows for alphanumeric or personalized message plates.

Section 10 adds new language to allow eligible Nebraskans to apply for Military Honor Plates beginning January 2, 2015. Requires anyone using Military Honor Plates to surrender the plates if they become ineligible (i.e., become dishonorably discharged). Contains the additional fee for alphanumeric plates of \$5 for credit to the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund. The fee for the personalized plates is \$40 of which 75%, or \$30, is credited to the Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund and 25%, or \$10, is credited to the DMV Cash Fund. Lost, stolen, or mutilated plates are replaced upon request without charge. Provides that plates are transferable. Allows for transfer of funds from the Nebraska Veteran Cemetery System Operation Fund to the Highway Trust Fund in the event the cost of manufacturing the plates exceeds the amount charged. Allows the Director of the DMV to cancel plates and registration in the event of fraud in application for Military Honor Plates.

Section 11 adds new language to allow the Department of Veterans' Affairs to create and maintain a registry to aid the DMV in verifying eligibility for Military Honor Plates. Allows the DMV to make rules and regulations.

Section 12 repeals original sections.

Annette Dubas, Chairperson